

\_\_\_\_ JOINT RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_

INTRODUCED BY \_\_\_\_\_

(Primary Sponsor)

A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA REQUESTING THAT AN APPROPRIATE INTERIM COMMITTEE BE ASSIGNED TO STUDY THE IMPLEMENTATION OF LEGISLATION ENACTED IN 2001 TO REVISE INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY LAWS AND RESPONSIBILITIES, ESTABLISH A CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER, AND DEVELOP A STATE STRATEGIC INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY PLAN; SPECIFYING STUDY OBJECTIVES; AND REQUESTING A REPORT TO THE 59TH LEGISLATURE.

WHEREAS, a range of issues related to information technology needs and costs compelled the 2001 Montana Legislature to enact Senate Bill No. 131, which generally revised the laws governing information technology, provided for a chief information officer for the state, established an Information Technology Board, and required a state strategic information technology plan; and

WHEREAS, the policy issues driving enactment of Senate Bill No. 131 included concern about increasing costs, the need to promote collaboration, coordination, and interoperability among various state agencies and systems, and a desire to ensure that information technology purchases were strategically managed in the most cost-effective manner; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of Senate Bill No. 131 was to enhance the productivity of state agencies, to provide better services to customers, and to facilitate public/private partnerships; and

WHEREAS, it was not the intent of the Legislature to hinder or burden state agencies, increase costs, degrade capabilities, or stifle a collaborative and participatory decisionmaking process; and

WHEREAS, it is the duty of the Legislature to examine the effects of its legislation, monitor how its policies are being interpreted and implemented, and adjust legislative policy accordingly.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

That the Legislative Council assign an appropriate interim committee to:

(1) examine the rules adopted to implement Senate Bill No. 131, including the rulemaking process and how stakeholder concerns were considered and addressed;

(2) examine the state's strategic information technology plan provided for in section 2-17-521, MCA, including:

(a) how the plan was developed;

(b) the role of the Information Technology Board;

(c) how individual agency plans were developed and incorporated into the state plan; and

(d) the viability of the state plan and whether or how the plan furthers the policy goals set by the Legislature, including whether the plan improves efficiency, enhances customer services, and establishes effective public/private partnerships;

(3) examine specific fiscal information about the personnel and operational costs associated with implementation of Senate Bill No. 131, including whether new employee positions were created, how much time and the amount of resources that were dedicated to agency information technology plans and the statewide strategic information technology plan, and what new costs or administrative burdens may have been imposed on agencies in order to develop the plans;

(4) examine whether services provided by the Information Technology Services Division have improved and what cost-savings, service enhancements, and public/private partnerships have been achieved as a result of Senate Bill No. 131; and

(5) evaluate the role of the advisory groups in implementing Senate Bill No. 131, including the role of the Information Technology Board, the SummitNet Executive Council, the Electronic Government Advisory Council, the Information Technology Manager's Council, and others.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the interim committee receive appropriate staff support to perform this study and complete its work before September 15, 2004, and report its findings and recommendations, including any legislation, to the 59th Legislature.

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